

INFORMATION ~~SECRET~~ REPORT

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COUNTRY Spain

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SUBJECT The Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo  
Factions in Catalonia

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SOURCE An untested Spanish source from informants as indicated in the text.

1. A Catalan Socialist leader active in clandestine circles told source toward the end of December 1948 that the Montseny, or apolitical, faction of the Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo was far more important numerically in Barcelona than the faction which collaborates with anti-Franco political groups. [REDACTED] Comment. Estimates by exiled Spaniards as reported in [REDACTED] were to the opposite effect.) The collaborationist CNT, according to the informant, is of slight importance, whereas the number of workers controlled by the Montseny CNT was estimated at 50,000.
2. Most of the activities of the Montseny CNT are carried on by individual groups without coordination with their central organs; frequently the Genetista group of one factory has no contact with that of another factory in the immediate vicinity. Thus the CNT's weakness, according to the informant, is that what could be a large and powerful organization is reduced to a multiplicity of centers without a cohesive force. [REDACTED] Comment. This decentralization is in line with the CNT policy advocated by the exiles as mentioned in paragraph 3 of [REDACTED]
3. Police spies have penetrated the CNT, but the government would risk a disastrous work stoppage if it took action against the members.
4. An informant described as the holder of an important position in a factory employing 500 workers stated that virtually all the 500 workers were Genetistas of the Montseny faction. According to source, the informant is in a position to discover the affiliations of the workers because his anti-Franco slant is known to them. It was the informant's belief that Communist propaganda in the factories was not very effective; that it was accepted by the workers mainly because it was anti-Franco.

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